1 KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California 2 JAMES M. LEDAKIS Supervising Deputy Attorney General MARICHELLE S. TAHIMIC Deputy Attorney General . 4 State Bar No. 147392 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 5 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 6 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-3154 7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061 Attorneys for Complainant 8 BEFORE THE 9 **BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING** DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS 10 STATE OF CALIFORNIA 11 In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2013-233 12 RUTH LITECKY MAINA 27525 East Trail Ridgeway, Apt. 2099 13 Moreno Valley, CA 92555 ACCUSATION 14 Registered Nurse License No. 679031 15 Respondent. 16 17 Complainant alleges: 18 **PARTIES** 19 Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her 20 official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of 21 Consumer Affairs. 22 2. On or about May 9, 2006, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse 23 License Number 679031 to Ruth Litecky Maina (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License 24 was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and expired on May 25 31, 2012 and has not been renewed. 26 111 27 111 28 111

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JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS

6. Section 2761 of the Code states:

The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- (a) Unprofessional conduct,....
- 7. Section 2762 of the Code states:

In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- (a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- (b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section.

8. Section 4060 of the Code states:

No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, a naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nursemidwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer. Nothing in this section authorizes a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her own stock of dangerous drugs and devices.

- 9. Health and Safety Code section 11170 states that no person shall prescribe, administer, or furnish a controlled substance for herself.
 - 10. Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a) states:

No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge; or (2) by the concealment of a material fact.

COST RECOVERY

11. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

DRUGS

12. Ativan, a brand name for lorazepam, is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057(d)(16), and is a dangerous drug pursuant to

Business and Professions Code section 4022. Lorazepam is used in the treatment of anxiety disorders and for short-term (up to 4 months) relief of the symptoms of anxiety.

- 13. <u>Dilaudid</u>, a brand name for hydromorphone, is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(J) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 14. Fentanyl, is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code Section 11055(c)(8), and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. Fentanyl is a narcotic (opioid) pain medicine and can be delivered through transdermal Duragesic patches that deliver a continuous dose of the potent narcotic painkiller fentanyl for a period of three days. The patches are prescribed for chronic pain when short-acting narcotics and other types of painkillers fail to provide relief.
- 15. Tylenol #3, a brand name for acetaminophen with codeine, is a Schedule III controlled substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11056, and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022.

KAISER PERMANENTE MORENO VALLEY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

- 16. Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse at Kaiser Permanente Moreno Valley Community Hospital (hereinafter "Kaiser Moreno Valley") from June 20, 2008 until her involuntary termination on November 29, 2010 for misconduct. Respondent's last day of employment at Kaiser Moreno Valley was September 26, 2010. During her employment at Kaiser Moreno Valley, Respondent worked the night shift (1900 hours to 0700 hours) in the Step-Down Unit.
- 17. In August, 2010, a random audit of Respondent's Pyxis¹ activity was performed for the period March 2, 2010 through August 16, 2010. The audit revealed that Respondent

¹ Pyxis is a trade name for the automatic single-unit dose medication dispensing system that records information such as patient name, physician orders, date and time medication was withdrawn, and the name of the licensed individual who withdrew and administered the medication. Each user/operator is given a user identification code to operate the control panel. Sometimes only portions of the withdrawn narcotics are given to the patient. The portions not given to the patient are referred to as "wastage." This waste must be witnessed by another authorized user and is also recorded by the Pyxis machine.

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withdrew a total of 38 mg of Dilaudid IV from Pyxis on 19 occasions during this period, followed by documented wastage of all this medication. The average number of withdrawals for all Registered Nurses at Kaiser Moreno Valley that resulted in documented wastage was three.

- 18. The large amount of Dilaudid that Respondent wasted led to a further audit. The second audit revealed the following:
- a. Patient 1: March 3, 2010: Respondent was not scheduled to work on March 3, 2010 because she was scheduled to attend a meeting. Within an hour of arrival, Respondent documented withdrawal of 2 mg Dilaudid IV, administration of 0.5 mg Dilaudid IV at 0800 and wastage of 1.5 mg for Patient 1, who was another nurse's patient. The patient's nurse did not ask Respondent to medicate the patient and the medical records indicated the patient had "no pain" during the 24 hours before and after Respondent administered Dilaudid.

Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
	Respondent	Administered		
Dilaudid 0.5	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 0.5 mg	Dilaudid 1.5	Not
mg Inj Q4 hrs	0804 hours	@ 0800 hours	mg	Respondent's
PRN				patient. Patient
				had no
	•			complaints of
			•	pain before or
				after
			٠.	administration
				of Dilaudid.

b. Patient 2: March 5, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
	Respondent	Administered	;	
Lorazepam Inj	Lorazepam 2 mg Inj	None	Lorazepam 1.5	Lorazepam 0.5
0.5 mg one	@ 2120 hours		mg	mg
time only				

c. Patient 3: April 4, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
Dilaudid 1 mg	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 1 mg @	Dilaudid 1 mg	None
IV Q6 hrs PRN	0403 hours	0400 hours		•

	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0921 hours	Dilaudid 1 mg @ 0900 hours		Dilaudid 1 mg
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 1625 hours	Dilaudid 1 mg @ 1600 hours		Dilaudid 1 mg
d. Pati	ent 4: April 19, 2010:			
Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
Dilaudid 1 mg	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 1 mg @	Dilaudid 1 mg	None
IV Q4 hrs PRN	0102 hours by	0400 hours by	by another	
	another nurse	another nurse	nurse	. NT
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0448 hours	Dilaudid 1 mg Inj @ 0400 hours	Dilaudid 1 mg	None
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0459 hours		Dilaudid 1 mg	Dilaudid 1 mg
e. Pati	ent 5: May 6, 2010:			
Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
	Respondent	Administered	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
Dilaudid 0.5	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @		Dilaudid 1.5	Removal of
mg IV every	2031 hours when the		mg	Dilaudid 2 mg
two hours	patient was		·	for a patient not
•	discharged at 2025			assigned to
	hours and had		•	Respondent and
	previously been			discharged 6
	administered			minutes before
	Dilaudid by another			removal of
	nurse at 2021 hours on 5/6/2010.			Dilaudid.
	011 3/0/2010.		Dilaudid 0.5	
	· ·		mg at 2034	
			hours	·
				•
f. Pati	ient 6: May 30, 2010:	On May 30, 2010 at	2105 hours, Respo	ndent withdrew
	ng and documented was	tage of 1 mg at 2144	hours. There is no	documentation of
	of the remaining 1 mg.			
Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
Dilaudid 0.5	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @		Dilaudid 1 mg	Dilaudid 1 mg
mg IV Q4 hrs PRN	2105 hours			
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 0.5 mg	Dilaudid 1.5	None
111	1		2 1100010 1.0	1,0110

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.		2144 hours by another nurse	@ 2100 hours	mg	
2	g. Pație	ent 7: June 13, 2010:			
₽ ∭	Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
5	Tylenol # 3	Tylenol #3 1 tablet	None	None	This order was
5 ∥	300-30 mg 1				discontinued as
	tablet Q6 hours	· i			of 5/30/10 @
7	PRN				2142 hours.
3		•			1 tablet Tylenol #3.
9	h. Patie	ent 8: August 4, 2010:			
)	Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
ı	71 1110	Respondent	Administered	7.1	D'1 1:10
$\ $	Dilaudid 2 mg IV Q4 hrs PRN	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 1915 hours	None	None	Dilaudid 2 mg
2	IV Q4 IIIS PRIN	1913 Hours	·		
3		ent 9: August 7, 2010:			
4	Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
5	Dilaudid 0.5	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	None	Dilaudid 1.5	Dilaudid 0.5 mg
6	mg IV one	2008 hours		mg	
, II	time only	(withdrawn before			
7	(ordered at 2130 hours)	order)		ſ	
8	2130 110 413)	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 0.5 mg	Dilaudid 1.5	None
		2128 hours	Inj @ 2100 hours	mg	
9	÷				
0	j. Pati	ent 10: August 17, 20	10:		
1	Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
		Respondent	Administered		
2	Dilaudid 0.5	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @		Wasted None	Discrepancy Dilaudid 2 mg
	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs	Respondent	Administered		
2	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0504 hours	Administered None	None	Dilaudid 2 mg
2	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN 19. As p	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0504 hours oart of the Board's investigation	Administered None stigation, a Controlled	None I Substance Utiliz	Dilaudid 2 mg
2 3 4	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN 19. As p	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0504 hours out of the Board's investment report was obtained	Administered None stigation, a Controlled	None I Substance Utiliz	Dilaudid 2 mg ation Review and
2 3 4 5	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN 19. As p	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0504 hours oart of the Board's investigation	Administered None stigation, a Controlled	None I Substance Utiliz	Dilaudid 2 mg ation Review and
2 3 4 5 6	Dilaudid 0.5 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN 19. As p	Respondent Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 0504 hours out of the Board's investment report was obtained	Administered None stigation, a Controlled	None I Substance Utiliz	Dilaudid 2 mg ation Review and

Lorazepam, Ambien, hydrocodone, codeine, and Zolpidem. Respondent had 19 different physicians prescribing these drugs to Respondent during this period of time.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct – Kaiser Permanente Moreno Valley Community Hospital)

20. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761, subdivision (a) for unprofessional conduct in that Respondent withdrew controlled substances purportedly for patients of Kaiser Moreno Valley without documenting administration and/or wastage of drugs, withdrew controlled substances for a patient she was not assigned, withdrew controlled substances when there was no longer a physician's order for the drug, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 16-19 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Obtained Controlled Substances – Kaiser Permanente Moreno Valley Community Hospital)

21. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2762, subdivision (a) for unprofessional conduct in that Respondent obtained or possessed controlled substances in violation of law, specifically Code section 4060 and Health and Safety Code sections 11170 and 11173(a), when Respondent withdrew controlled substances purportedly for patients of Kaiser Moreno Valley without documenting administration and/or wastage of the drugs, withdrew controlled substances for a patient she was not assigned, withdrew controlled substances for a patient who had been discharged and withdrew controlled substances when there was no longer a physician's order for the drug, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 16-19 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Falsify or Make Grossly Incorrect and/or Inconsistent Entries in Records of Kaiser Permanente Moreno Valley Community Hospital)

22. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2762, subdivision (e) for unprofessional conduct in that Respondent falsified or made grossly incorrect and/or inconsistent

entries in Kaiser Moreno Valley's hospital records when she documented administration of medication to a patient to whom she was not assigned, when she purportedly withdrew controlled substances for a patient who had been previously discharged, and when she purportedly withdrew controlled substances for a patient whose order for the drug had been previously discontinued, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 16-19 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

INLAND VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

- 23. Respondent was employed as a Registered Nurse at Inland Valley Medical Center from November 10, 2009 through November 4, 2010. She worked in the Progressive Care Unit, or PCU.
- 24. On November 3, 2010 at about 0100 hours, Patient # ---994 complained of pain and requested his pain medication, which was Dilaudid. The patient's assigned nurse, A.C., attempted to withdraw the medication from Pyxis but received a message from Pyxis that it was "too soon to give." The nurse asked other nurses in the unit if they had given the patient any pain medication in the last half hour and they denied doing so. The patient stated he had not been given pain medication since the day shift at about 1800 hours.
- 25. A review of Pyxis records revealed that Respondent withdrew Dilaudid at 0012 hours. Respondent denied removing the medication and stated that someone must have come after her and withdrawn the medication from Pyxis before she "closed out" of Pyxis. An investigation of the "time out" period for Pyxis was performed by C.D. C.D. determined that Pyxis will log off a user 30 seconds after activity ceases. The last time Respondent withdrew medication from Pyxis was at 2351 hours, 20 minutes before Dilaudid was removed at 0011 hours.
- 26. As a result of this incident, Respondent's medication withdrawal and administration records were audited. The audit revealed the following:
- a. Patient #---700 on October 4, 2010: Respondent withdrew 1 mg Dilaudid Inj at 2002 hours for another nurse and did not chart administration or wastage.

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b. Patient #---068 on October 10, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
Dilaudid 2 mg	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 2 mg at	None	None
			None	None
IV Q4 hrs PRN	0058 hours	0058 hours	·	
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 2 mg @	None	None
	0407 hours	0455 hours		
	Dilaudid 2 mg Ing	None	None	Dilaudid 2 mg
	@ 0546 hours			

c. Patient #---056 on October 10, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
	Respondent	Administered		
Dilaudid 1 mg	Dilaudid 1 mg Inj	Dilaudid 1 mg @	None	None
Q2 hrs PRN	removed @ 2053	2050 hours		
	hours			
	Dilaudid 1 mg Inj	In Nursing Notes	Waste not	Amount
	Removed @ 2252	charted @ 2250	reflected in	administered
	hours	hours as	Pyxis records	was not charted
		administered but		on MAR
		that vial had to be		
		wasted		

d. Patient #---068 on October 13, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by	Charted as	Wasted	Discrepancy
	Respondent	Administered		
Dilaudid 2 mg	Dilaudid 1 mg Inj @	Dilaudid1 mg at	None	None
IV Q4 hrs PRN	2003 hours	2003 hours		
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @		Cancelled	None
	2122 hours		removal	•
	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 1 mg @	Dilaudid 1 mg	Withdrawal was
	2124	2126 hours	wasted @ 2124	too soon
	Dilaudid 1 mg Inj @		Dilaudid 1 mg	None
	2128 hours		at 2150 hours	

e. Patient #---874 on October 19, 2010:

Ordered	Withdrawn by Respondent	Charted as Administered	Wasted	Discrepancy
Dilaudid 2 mg IV Q3 hrs PRN	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 1949 hours		Charted as wasted at 2000 but not wasted	Dilaudid 2 mg

Accusation

1				in Pyxis	
		Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 2222 hours	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @ 2220 hours		None
2		Dilaudid 2 mg Inj @	Dilaudid 2 mg Inj		None
3		0053 hours	@ 0058 hours		
4		<u>FOURTH</u>	CAUSE FOR DISC	<u>IPLINE</u>	
5		(Unprofessional	Conduct – Inland Va	alley Hospital)	•
6	27. Resp	condent is subject to dis	cipline under Code se	ection 2761, subdiv	vision (a) for
7	unprofessional o	conduct in that Responde	ent withdrew controll	ed substances purp	portedly for
8	patients of Inlan	d Valley Hospital witho	out documenting admi	inistration and/or v	wastage of drugs
9	and withdrew co	ontrolled substances soo	ner than ordered and	Respondent failed	to document
10	administration is	n the patient's Medication	on Administration Re	cord, as more fully	y set forth in
11	paragraphs 23-2	6 and incorporated here	in as though set forth	in full.	
12	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	FIFTH C	CAUSE FOR DISCI	PLINE	
13	•	(Obtained Controlled	d Substances – Inlan	d Valley Hospita	1)
14	28. Res	pondent is subject to dis	scipline under Code so	ection 2762, subdi	vision (a) for
15	unprofessional o	conduct in that Respond	ent obtained or posse	ssed controlled sul	ostances in
16	violation of law	, specifically Code secti	on 4060 and Health a	nd Safety Code se	ections 11170 and
17	11173(a), when	Respondent withdrew of	controlled substances	purportedly for pa	tients of Inland
18	Valley Hospital	without documenting a	dministration and/or v	wastage of the dru	gs, and withdrew
19	controlled subst	ances sooner than order	ed and Respondent fa	iled to document	administration in
20	the patient's Me	edication Administration	Record, as more full	ly set forth in para	graphs 23-26 and
21	incorporated he	rein as though set forth	in full.)
22		SIXTH O	CAUSE FOR DISCL	<u>PLINE</u>	
23		(Falsify or Make Gros			ries
24		in Record	ls of Inland Valley H	lospital)	
25	29. Res	spondent is subject to dis	scipline under Code s	ection 2762, subdi	vision (e) for
26	unprofessional	conduct in that Respond	lent falsified or made	grossly incorrect a	and/or inconsistent
27	entries in Inland	d Valley Hospital's reco	ords when she docume	ented withdrawal a	nd administration

of controlled substances to a patient who denied receiving such medication and when she charted

administration of controlled substances in Nursing Notes but not in the patient's Medication Administration Record, and when she charted wastage of controlled substances in Nursing Notes but not in Pyxis, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 23-26 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

REDLANDS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

- 30. On February 3, 2011, Respondent was employed as a registry nurse by Premier Healthcare Services and was assigned to work the night shift (1900 hours to 0700 hours) at Redlands Community Hospital. She was assigned two patients on February 3, 2011.
- 31. On February 3, 2011 at 2135 hours, one of Respondent's assigned patients called for Respondent. Respondent could not be located. During the search for Respondent, G.W. passed through the break room and saw that the bathroom door was closed and locked. G.W. heard the sound of running water and snoring from the bathroom. When there was no response to G.W.'s knocks, G.W. called an employee from the engineering department to unlock the door. After the door was unlocked and opened, G.W. saw Respondent slumped over the toilet with a small amount of blood on her forehead and blood on her right hand. Respondent was unconscious. There was a small amount of vomit on the floor beside a bloody tourniquet and a used syringe. There was another used syringe under the bathroom mirror. A Code Blue was called at 2143 hours.
- 32. The Code Blue team arrived. When Respondent's clothes were cut off, a syringe was found under her sleeve and against her arm. A Fentanyl patch was found on Respondent bearing the date and time of issuance to patient #---400. An IV was started and 2 doses of Narcan were administered to Respondent. At 2158 hours, Respondent awakened and was transported to the emergency department. Respondent refused to have her blood drawn and refused to give a urine specimen.
- 33. At 2335 hours it was noted that the Fentanyl patch placed on patient #---400 at 0900 hours was missing from the patient and a new patch was placed.
- 34. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that Respondent withdrew one 1-mg syringe of Dilaudid for Patient #---647 on February 3, 2011 at 2050 hours, wasted 0.25 mg

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Dilaudid, and documented administration to this patient of 0.25 mg. The remaining 0.5 mg Dilaudid was not accounted for.

- 35. Respondent was terminated from her employment with Premier Healthcare Services on February 16, 2011 for patient abandonment and use of controlled substances.
- On July 11, 2011, Respondent was interviewed by an investigator for the Board. Respondent was uncooperative at first, but later stated, "Yes, I'm an addict." Respondent admitted she became an addict around September 2010 when she was having marital and work problems, and was suffering from depression. Respondent explained that her addiction started when she was prescribed pain killers for endometriosis. At about this same time, she was in a car accident and was prescribed more painkillers. From that moment on, Respondent stated she continued to take medication for pain. She admitted to "dosing" at work but declined to disclose her drug of choice or the amount of drugs she was taking.
- Respondent admitted that on February 3, 2011, she overdosed on narcotics. She had used her husband's medication. Respondent admitted that there was always medication in her home because her husband suffers from fibromyalgia. Respondent stated that she had not planned to go in to work on February 3, 2011 and that she had taken some Vicodin earlier in the day. While at work, Respondent stated she "shot herself with whatever medication she had taken from home." Respondent denied having or taking a Fentanyl patch from a patient.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct – Redlands Community Hospital)

Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2761, subdivision (a) for 38: unprofessional conduct in that Respondent abandoned her patient in order to unlawfully use controlled substances, withdrew Dilaudid, purportedly for a patient of Redlands Community Hospital without documenting administration and/or wastage of drugs, obtained Fentanyl from a patient for her own use, unlawfully used a controlled substance during working hours and overdosed on a controlled substance, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 30-37 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Obtained Controlled Substances -Redlands Community Hospital)

39. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2762, subdivision (a) for unprofessional conduct in that Respondent obtained or possessed controlled substances, to wit, Dilaudid, Vicodin and Fentanyl, in violation of law, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 30-37 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Used Controlled Substances -Redlands Community Hospital)

40. Respondent is subject to discipline under Code section 2762, subdivision (b) for unprofessional conduct in that Respondent used controlled substances, to wit, Dilaudid, Vicodin, and Fentanyl in violation of law, specifically Code section 4060 and Health and Safety Code sections 11170 and 11173(a), and in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself or the public and to the extent that such use impaired her ability to safely practice as a registered nurse, as more fully set forth in paragraphs 30-37 and incorporated herein as though set forth in full.

DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS

41. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges that on or about March 22, 2012, Respondent was terminated from the Board's diversion program for reasons other than successful completion of the program.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 679031, issued to Ruth Litecky Maina;
- Ordering Ruth Litecky Maina to pay the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions
 Code section 125.3;

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1	3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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3	DATED: OCTOBER 02, 2012 HAVE Jan
4	LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN Executive Officer
5	Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs
6	State of California Complainant
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